

**Prof. Dr. Ernst
Buschor (CH)**

Vice President
Board of the
Swiss Federal Institutes
of Technology (ETH)
Zurich



Born in 1943. Ernst Buschor studied business administration at the University of St. Gallen, where he received his doctorate in 1970.

After a staff position for financial planning with the Swiss Federal Finance Administration and an expert mandate at the Council of Europe, he served as Head of the Financial Administration of the Canton of Zurich between 1972 and 1985. Subsequently, Ernst Buschor was appointed Professor for public administration and public finance at the University of St. Gallen and, in 1988, Director of the Institute for Financial Management and Financial Law. From 1990 to 1993, he was Vice Rector of the University of St. Gallen. In 1993, he was elected Member of the Government of the Canton of Zurich, where Ernst Buschor served in the Department of Health until 1995 as well as in the Department of Education until 2003. Ernst Buschor was a Member or President of several councils such as the Swiss University Council and the Swiss Council of Universities of Applied Science. Since 2004, Ernst Buschor has been Vice President of the Board of the Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology (ETH) as well as a Trustee of the Bertelsmann Foundation and the Jacobs Foundation.

Additionally, he served as Visiting Professor at the University of Bocconi, Milano, and at the German University of Public Administration, Speyer. Ernst Buschor was also a Member or President of numerous task forces and associations including Swiss Harmonisation of Public Accounting, the Swiss Public Administration Association, and the Conference for International Governmental Accounting and Research (CIGAR).

He published in the area of public finance and administration, controlling and education.

Theses

**The Importance of
Education for Prosperity**

1. In most studies on competitiveness the availability of highly qualified workforce is one of the most important factors. The quality of human capital is decisive. Education is an important factor of welfare. Each educational level has to contribute in a particular form.

Theses

**The Importance of
Education for Prosperity**

2. A growing multicultural environment, more varied family forms with different styles of education and a rising proportion of immigrant children in schools will ask for new forms of social integration inside and outside schools. This is an opportunity and a threat to schools and society. As the PISA study demonstrates, the forms and organisation of general schools contribute in a very different way and effectiveness to education and socialisation of youth.
3. Shorter half-life of professional knowledge and higher importance of social and communicative skills in a service oriented global society need a re-orientation of professional education to basics.
4. Competitive, innovative tertiary education and research is decisive for a prosperous economy in the global knowledge society. Also in Europe, the universities will be classified in research universities of worldwide top reputation, excellent continental teaching universities and regional universities.
5. The profiles of universities will vary more. English as the worldwide scientific language, blended learning and higher mobility of excellent researchers and professors as well as of excellent students will promote research and teaching.
6. Universities will compete on outstanding professors, excellent equipment and select highly qualified (graduate) students. They will need growing private funds and compete on such financial resources. In our aging workforce outstanding research and postgraduate programmes will be essential for the reputation of universities. Excellent university management will be complex and fastidious.
7. The attitude of life long learning within enterprises and on an individual base as well as the social and political acceptance of the challenges of the global knowledge society will be decisive for growth and prosperity in our aging society.